

**MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DETERMINATION OF ELIGIBILITY FORM**

Property Name: Woodmont Rod and Gun Club Inventory Number: WA-VI-054
Address: Woodmont Road Historic district: ☒ yes ☐ no
City: Hancock Zip Code: _____ County: Washington
USGS Quadrangle(s): Bellegrove
Property Owner: Maryland Department of Natural Resources Tax Account ID Number: _____
Tax Map Parcel Number(s): _____ Tax Map Number: _____
Project: treatment of Caretaker's House Agency: DNR
Agency Prepared By: Maryland Historical Trust
Preparer's Name: Jonathan Sager Date Prepared: 2/26/2007
Documentation is presented in: _____
Preparer's Eligibility Recommendation: ☒ Eligibility recommended ☐ Eligibility not recommended
Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G
Complete if the property is a contributing or non-contributing resource to a NR district/property:
Name of the District/Property: _____
Inventory Number: _____ Eligible: ☐ yes ☐ no Listed: ☐ yes ☐ no
Site visit by MHT Staff ☐ yes ☐ no Name: _____ Date: _____

Description of Property and Justification: *(Please attach map and photo)*

Description:

The April 2000 Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties (MIHP) form for the Woodmont Rod and Gun Club (WA-VI-054) describes the property as a "rustic hunting and fishing club [that] encompasses some 3,420 acres of land bordering the upper reaches of the Potomac River and is representative of a managed sportsmen's club. It accommodated mostly Washington D.C. elite, operating from around 1881 to 1995 when the State of Maryland bought the property."

The buildings and structures at Woodmont consist of a main lodge and two other complexes, Camp Cleveland and a caretaker's property. Camp Cleveland includes a guide's cabin, a one-story frame lodge, the Lake Jenkins dam, an outhouse, two storage sheds, and two stone monuments. The caretaker's property includes a one and one-half story frame house, a concrete block garage, a modern turkey pen, and approximately 12 historic turkey pens. In addition to buildings and structures, the property contains an elaborate designed, constructed, and managed landscape including manmade lakes, clearings, and a complex system of roads. Many landscape features and paths are named for past club members.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended ☒ Eligibility not recommended ☐
Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D Considerations: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

MHT Comments:

Jonathan Sager
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services

[Signature]
Reviewer, National Register Program

2/26/07

Date

2/28/07

Date

The area surrounding Woodmont is generally rural. To the north is some open land that has been subdivided into residential lots, generally one to six acres in size, and a few larger, 30 to 100 acre, agricultural properties. These contain a variety of houses built during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and an equal number of post-1960 houses. Most of the land to the west of Woodmont is forested and owned by the state. A few parcels to the west along the Potomac River are privately owned and contain mid- and late twentieth century houses. The property east of Woodmont is wooded and owned by US Silica Company, a sand and gravel mining firm.

History:

The Woodmont Rod and Gun Club was formed in 1881 as a social and recreational institution for a group of wealthy Washington D.C. men. The MIHP form describes it as, "created in the late Nineteenth century by Robley Evans and a few of his friends and other elites, as a naturalistic preserve in which to enjoy a wilderness experience of hunting game and catching fish and to escape the pressures of urban life." The original, 1882, lodge at Woodmont was destroyed by fire in 1904.

In 1909, the Woodmont Rod and Gun Club was reformed and a second, still extant, lodge was constructed. Between this time and 1930, the members of Woodmont undertook a major program of landscape alteration and management that included fencing the entire property, building roads and service buildings, selectively clearing areas of forest, managing the naturally present wildlife, and raising domesticated animals as game. As described in the MIHP form, this resulted in a "new property layout [that] included numerous game fields interspersed between park infrastructure such as breeding pens, game wardens and keepers houses, bridges, dams, lodges, and a network of circuitous dirt roads linking them together." The current main lodge was built in 1929. It is described in the MIHP form as being "built in a Craftsman style with construction materials taken from the property in order for it to blend seamlessly with the rocky hillsides and verdant valleys of the surrounding landscape. It was made of stone and three stories tall, with a green tile roof, and a veranda overlooking the Potomac River valley. The interior had dark wood detailing and stone fireplaces throughout the first floor and numerous sleeping quarters on the second floor."

Throughout its history, the Woodmont Rod and Gun Club has been associated with a socially and economically elite group. A 1904 article in The Washington Post referred to the club as "a mecca for well-know sportsmen of this city and Pittsburg" and went on to say, "Its guests in the past have included many men of national renown, who sought recreation here. Among them were the late President Arthur and former President Cleveland, the later of who was entertained at the clubhouse on two occasions while on fishing trips". Another Washington Post article, printed in 1935, described Franklin Delano Roosevelt's upcoming plans to be the sixth United States President to visit Woodmont.

Significance:

The Woodmont Rod and Gun Club is a well-preserved representation of established themes in the history of outdoor recreation, particularly the late-nineteenth and early twentieth-century trend of rustic vacation camps built by the wealthy. A detailed analysis of Woodmont's place in this trend can be found in Cynthia Ott's article "A Sportsman's Paradise: The Woodmont Rod and Gun Club" in the summer 1997 edition of Maryland Historical Magazine. Ott wrote, "little has changed on the property since the fence was erected in the 1920s. Woodmont therefore provides a rare example by which to examine late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century ideas about nature."

Outdoor recreation is an especially significant theme in development and economic history of Washington County and western Maryland. The Woodmont Rod and Gun Club is eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A, for association with important trends in history, and under Criterion C, for demonstrating architectural and landscape design typical

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____

Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D Considerations: ___ A ___ B ___ C ___ D ___ E ___ F ___ G

MHT Comments:

Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services_____
Date_____
Reviewer, National Register Program_____
Date

of those trends. The property's period of significance is from Woodmont's founding in 1881 to the sale of the property to the state in 1995. A few of the character-defining features of the eligible historic district are: the internal system of roads and game fields, the lakes and other manmade landscape features, the lodges and public buildings, and the support structures and houses. While some of these, such as the Caretaker's Residence, have been altered over time, all of the buildings and structures dating from the period of significance contribute to the integrity of the property as a whole.

Future investigations may determine that the Woodmont Rod and Gun Club has additional significance under Criteria B for association with its original founders, such as Admiral Robert Evans, or later members, such as president and long-time member Henry P. Bridges.

Boundaries:

The boundaries of the eligible district are those shown on the September 2, 1948 plat of the Woodmont Rod and Gun Club. This area is approximately 3,420 acres.

Additional Information:

Bridges, Henry. *The Woodmont Story*. New York: A.S. Barnes and Co., 1953.

"Clubhouse in Ruins; Woodmont Rod and Gun Lodge Prey of Flames." *The Washington Post*: November 27, 1902: 2.

Mazurek, Charlie. "Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form WA-VI-054; Woodmont Rod and Gun Club."

Ott, Cynthia. "A Sportsman's Paradise: The Woodmont Rod and Gun Club." *Maryland Historical Magazine*. v. 92 n. 2 (Summer 1997): 219-237.

"Roosevelt Agrees to Take Part in Woodmont's Chair Ritual; Promises Officer of Rod and Gun Club There to Be Sixth Chief Executive of Nation to Sit in Its 'Presidents Chair'." *The Washington Post*. April 20, 1935: 17.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST REVIEW

Eligibility recommended _____

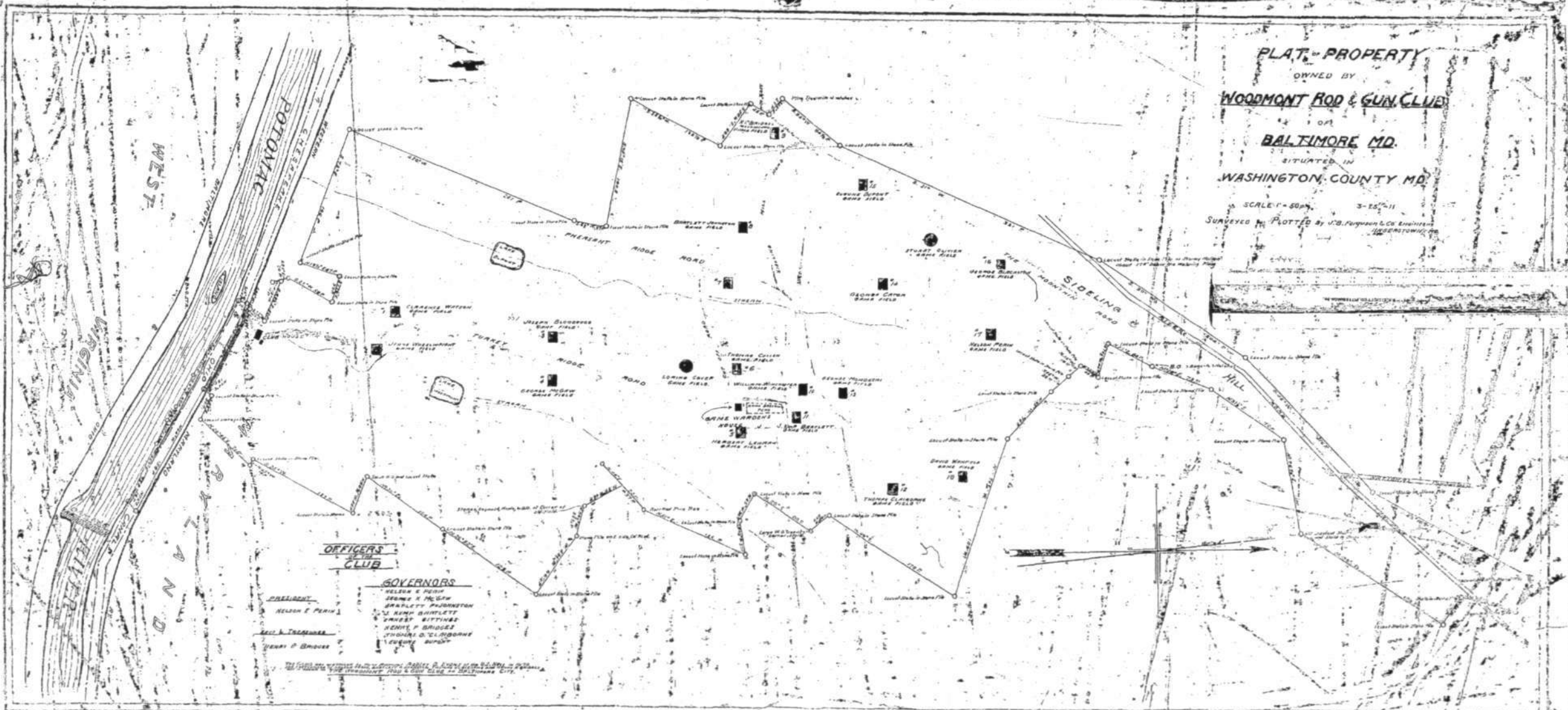
Eligibility not recommended _____

Criteria: ____ A ____ B ____ C ____ D Considerations: ____ A ____ B ____ C ____ D ____ E ____ F ____ G

MHT Comments:_____
Reviewer, Office of Preservation Services_____
Date_____
Reviewer, National Register Program_____
Date

PLAT. PROPERTY
OWNED BY
WOODMONT ROD & GUN CLUB
OF
BALTIMORE MD.
SITUATED IN
WASHINGTON COUNTY MD.

SCALE 1" = 500' 3-15-11
SURVEYED & PLOTTED BY J.B. FERGUSON & CO. ENGINEERS
BOSTON, MASS.

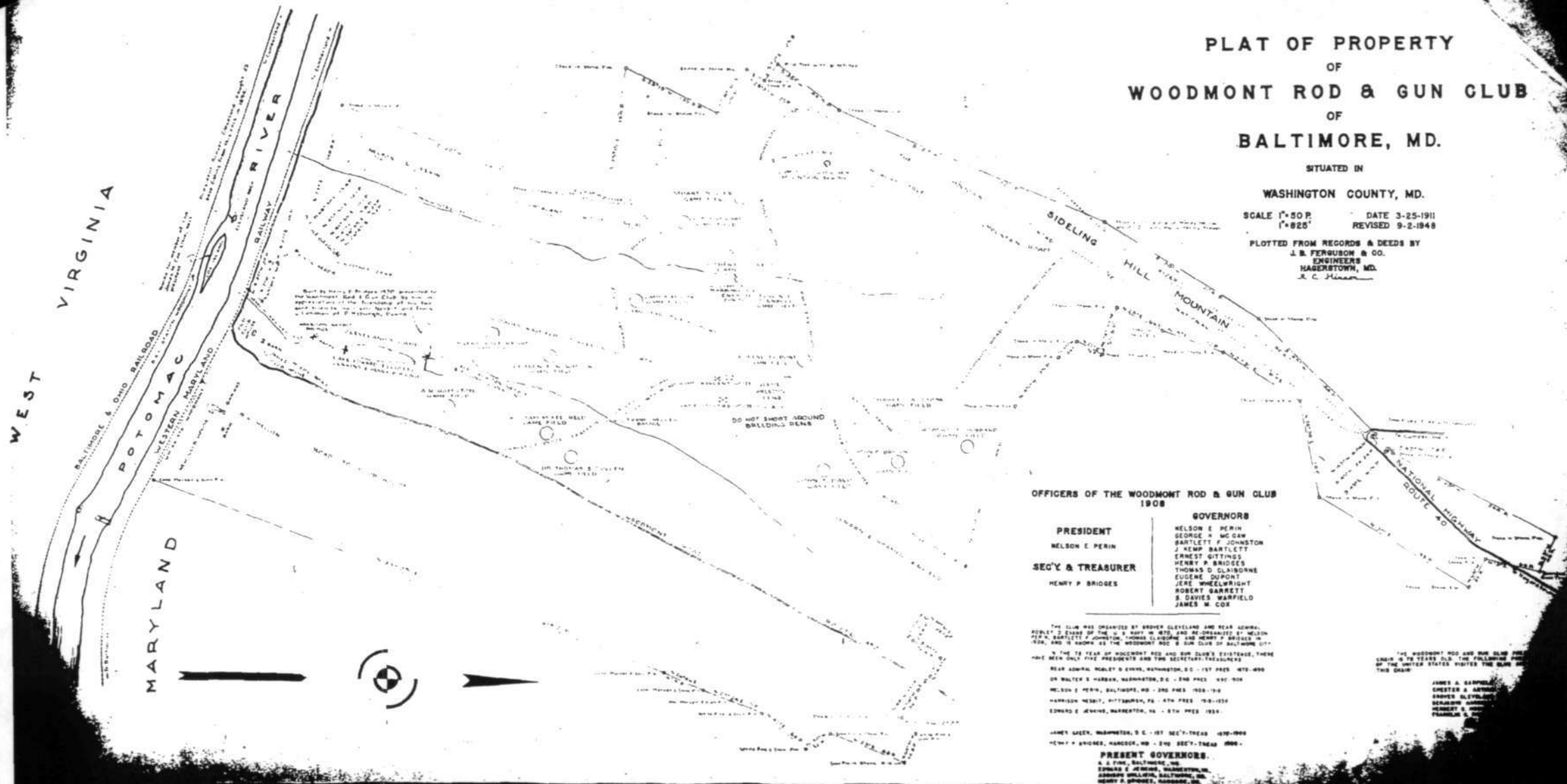


OFFICERS CLUB

PRESIDENT
NELSON E. PERIN
VICE PRES.
JOHN A. TUCKER
SECRETARY
HENRY P. BRIDGES

GOVERNORS
NELSON E. PERIN
JOHN A. TUCKER
JOHN A. BARTLEY
JOHN A. BARTLEY
JOHN A. BARTLEY
JOHN A. BARTLEY
JOHN A. BARTLEY

WA-VI-054
(911)



PLAT OF PROPERTY
OF
WOODMONT ROD & GUN CLUB
OF
BALTIMORE, MD.

SITUATED IN
WASHINGTON COUNTY, MD.
SCALE 1"=50' DATE 3-25-1911
1"=825' REVISED 9-2-1948
PLOTTED FROM RECORDS & DEEDS BY
J. B. FERGUSON & CO.
ENGINEERS
HAGERSTOWN, MD.
J. C. HARRIS

OFFICERS OF THE WOODMONT ROD & GUN CLUB
1908

PRESIDENT
NELSON E. PERIN

SECY & TREASURER
HENRY P. BRIDGES

GOVERNORS
NELSON E. PERIN
GEORGE H. MCGAW
BARTLETT F. JOHNSTON
J. NEMP. BARTLETT
ERNEST GITTINGS
HENRY P. BRIDGES
THOMAS O. CLARKSON
EUGENE DUPONT
JERE WHEELWRIGHT
ROBERT BARRETT
S. DAVIES WARFIELD
JAMES W. COX

THE CLUB WAS ORGANIZED BY BROWER CLEVELAND AND REAR GENERAL
ADULT 2 YEARS OF THE U. S. NAVY IN 1870, AND RE-ORGANIZED BY NELSON
PERIN, BARTLETT F. JOHNSTON, GEORGE H. MCGAW AND HENRY P. BRIDGES IN
1908, AND IS KNOWN AS THE WOODMONT ROD & GUN CLUB OF BALTIMORE CITY.
IN THE 75 YEAR OF WOODMONT ROD AND GUN CLUB'S EXISTENCE, THERE
HAVE BEEN ONLY FIVE PRESIDENTS AND TWO SECRETARIES-TREASURERS
REAR ADMIRAL MILES D. CROWE, WASHINGTON, D.C. - 1ST PRES. 1870-1890
DR. WALTER S. HARRAN, WASHINGTON, D.C. - 2ND PRES. 1890-1908
NELSON E. PERIN, BALTIMORE, MD. - 3RD PRES. 1908-1910
HARRISON MERRITT, PITTSBURGH, PA. - 4TH PRES. 1910-1911
EDWARD E. JENNINS, WASHINGTON, DC - 5TH PRES. 1911-1912

JAMES LEECH, WASHINGTON, D.C. - 1ST SECY-TREAS. 1870-1890
HENRY P. BRIDGES, HAGERSTOWN, MD. - 2ND SECY-TREAS. 1908-1911

PRESENT GOVERNORS
A. C. FINE, BALTIMORE, MD.
EDWARD E. JENNINS, WASHINGTON, DC
GEORGE H. MCGAW, BALTIMORE, MD.
HENRY P. BRIDGES, HAGERSTOWN, MD.

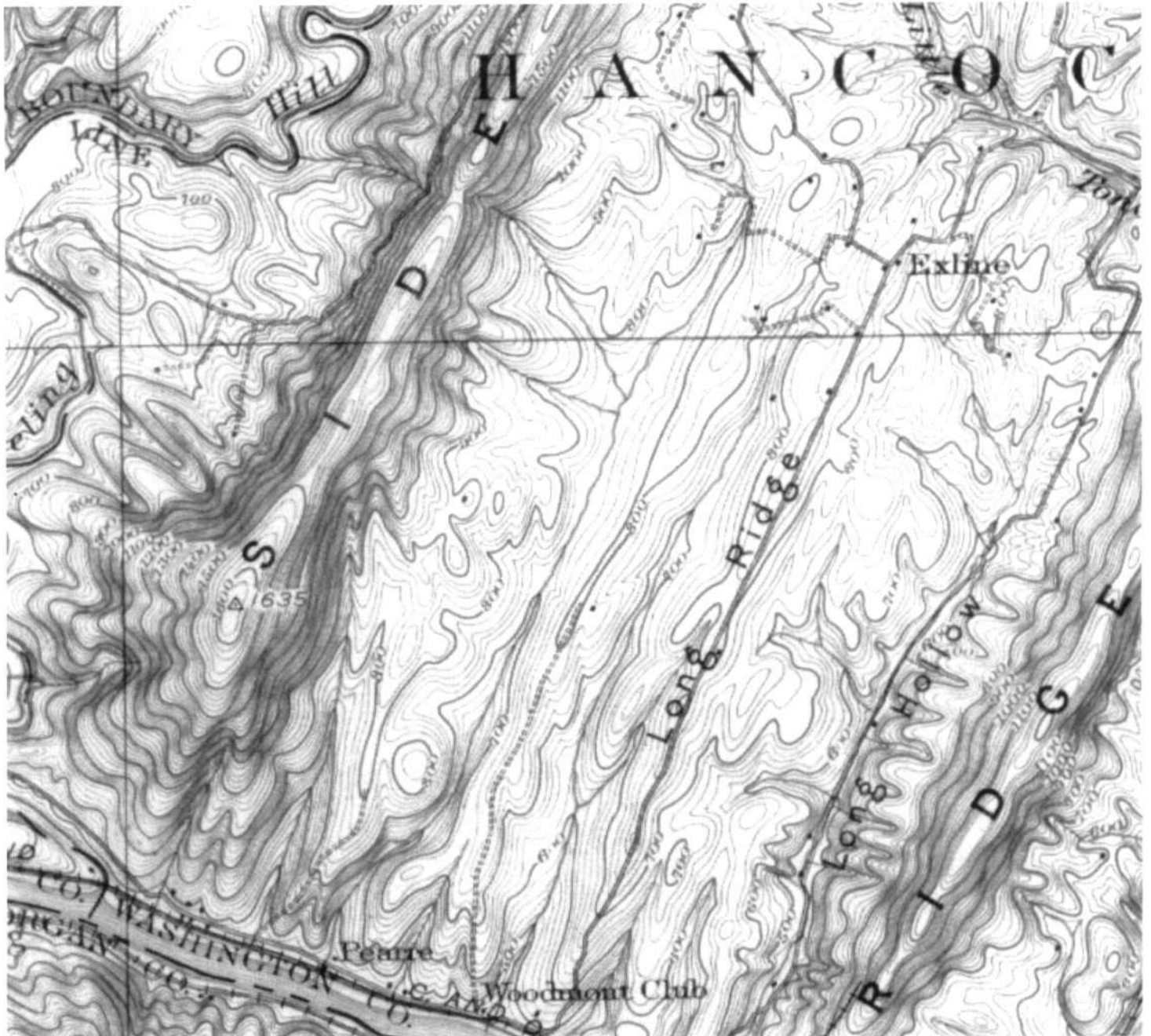
THE WOODMONT ROD AND GUN CLUB HAS
OWNED 975 ACRES OF LAND. THE FOLLOWING PART
OF THE UNITED STATES VISITED THE CLUB IN
THIS STATE

JAMES A. GARFIELD
CHESTER A. ARNOLD
BROWER CLEVELAND
GEORGE H. MCGAW
HENRY P. BRIDGES
FRANKLIN S.

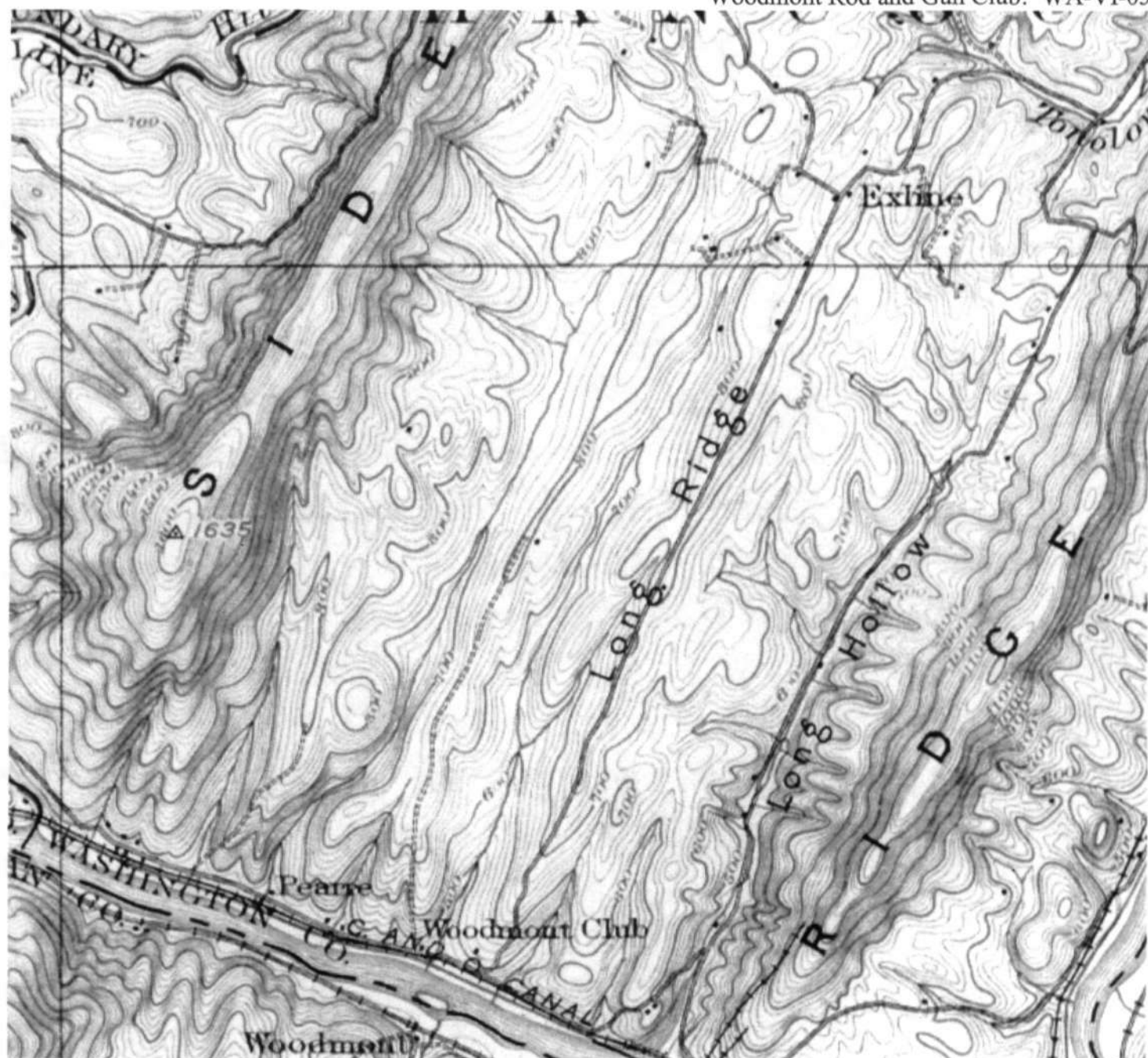
WA-11-054
1948



1859 Thomas Taggart map of Washington County



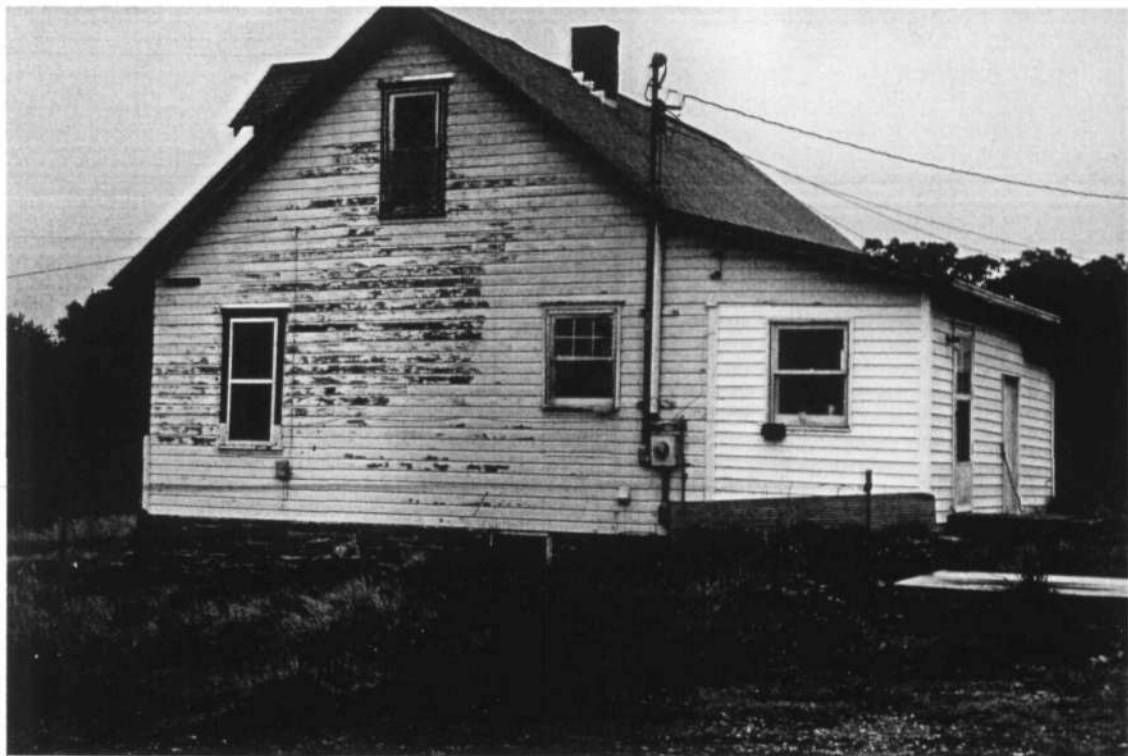
USGS 1898 Paw Paw Quadrangle



USGS 1910 Paw Paw Quadrangle



USGS 1974 Bellegrove Quadrangle



WA-VI-054
WOODMONT MANAGERS HOUSE
BEFORE IT WAS REDONE
DATE?



WA-VI-054

WOODMONT MANAGERS HOUSE
Before it was redone.
DATE?



WA-VI-054

WOODMONT

WASHINGTON CO., MA

C. MAZUREK

26357

2005

MA. DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
CARETAKERS RESIDENCE

1 OF 9



WA-VI-054

WOODMONT

WASHINGTON CO., MD

C. MAZUREK

2005

MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

CARETAKERS RESIDENCE

2 OF 4



WA-VI-054

WOODMONT

WASHINGTON CO., MD

C. MAZUREK

26380

2005

MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

CAPTAIN'S RESIDENCE

3 of 9



WA-VI-054

WOODMONT

WASHINGTON CO., MD

C. MAZUREK

2005

MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

CARETAKERS RESIDENCE

4 OF 9

26382



WA-VI-054
WOODMONT
WASHINGTON CO., MD
C. MAZUREK

26383

2005
MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES
CARETAKERS RESIDENCE
5 OF 9



WA - VI - 054

WOODMONT

WASHINGTON CO., MD

C. MAZUREK

26384

2005

MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

CARETAKERS RESIDENCE

6 of 9



WA-VI-054

WOODMONT

WASHINGTON CO., MD

C. MAZUREK

2005

MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

CARETAKERS RESIDENCE

7 OF 9

26361



WA-VI-054

WOODMONT

WASHINGTON Co., MD

C. MAZUREK

26362

2005

MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

CARETAKERS RESIDENCE

8 OF 9



WA-VI-054

WOODMONT

WASHINGTON Co., MD

C. MAZUREK

26364

2005

MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

CARETAKERS RESIDENCE

9 OF 9

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

WA-VI-054

Survey No.

1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Woodmont Rod and Gun Club; Cleveland's Camp and Woodmont Dam

other Camp Cleveland

2. Location

street & number Take 68 to Woodmont Road, continue approximately 7 miles to entrance ___ not for publication

city, town Hancock

☒ vicinity

county Washington

3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Maryland Department of Natural Resources

street & number Tawes State Office Building, 580 Taylor Avenue

telephone (410) 260-8192

city, town Annapolis

state and zip code Maryland 21401

4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Washington County Courthouse

tax map and parcel 336A:60A

city, town Hagerstown

liber and folio 3767/0198

5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Individually Listed in the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER
☐ HSR or Research report at MHT
☐ Other:

6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing Noncontributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<u>5</u> <u> </u> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> recreation/ culture	<u>1</u> <u> </u> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<u> </u> <u> </u> structures
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<u>3</u> <u> </u> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<u>9</u> <u> </u> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Number of Contributing Resources
previously listed in the Inventory

7. Description

Survey No WA-VI-054

Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Cleveland's Camp, a rustic retreat, and the Woodmont Dam are located at the Woodmont Rod and Gun Club which is in Washington County, Maryland. It is reached by taking Interstate 68, the National Pike, to Woodmont Road and continuing on this two lane road for about 7 miles to the entrance which is a gated dirt road. From here there are a web of dirt roads that lead throughout the property, including Cleveland's Camp which is adjacent to the dams at Lake Jenkins and Lake Lanahan.

Cleveland's Camp consists of two lodges, a monument, and outbuildings on the western edge of the Lake Lanahan. This area is reached by following the Charles L. Petze Peaceful Valley Road from the Woodmont Road entrance to the intersection of S. Davies Warfield Turkey Ridge Road on the left. This road leads directly along the edge of both Lake Lanahan and Lake Jenkins.

The main structure here is the rustic one-story lodge (kitchen/meeting hall #1) which is set upon an earthen berm next to the lake edge and the breached upper dam 100 feet to the east. It is constructed simply of logs that are V-notched and laid one on top of the other. The ends of the logs are left in the round and overlap one another at the corners. Chinking consists of a thin layer of concrete laid over a metal mesh. The roof is wood shingled and has a large overhang on the southern (front) facade. This facade faces towards the wetlands area and Lake Jenkins. The entrance on this side is highly decorated with a large wooden paneled door with sidelights and a fanlight. Windows are large, almost a full roof to floor height, and have a sash design of 9 lights over 2. All the woodwork is painted white. This facade has the largest roof overhang which exposes the log roof members and provides a nice covered porch from which to enjoy the lakeside views while sitting outside on the shaker style benches. The east facade contains a propane gas tank, a small window with 6 lights, and a shelter for firewood. This side addition has a tin roof which is centered about halfway down the wall and constructed of a mix of 2x4's and thick tree branches. The north facade includes a wood paneled door centered between two windows. The windows are the same type as on the front facade, but the door is of a much simpler design. The roof overhang on this facade is also not as pronounced as on the front facade. The west facade has no windows but it is the location of a large stacked stone chimney and the electrical service connections. The chimney is stone up to just above the roof line, but above this is a brick addition which raises the chimney a few more feet above the roof. Another smaller brick chimney is located on the opposite (east) side. The interior consists of a small service kitchen, a large communal table for eating, and a large stone fireplace with a mounted animal head above the mantel. This structure has been optimally situated to take advantage of the views of the lakes and to fit into the rural landscape of Woodmont.

Outside the main lodge are a large (4'8" x 7'6") brick grill and a stone monument with a plaque commemorating the leaders and members of the club. The plaque says LAKE NESBIT & LANAHAN, BUILT BY HENRY BRIDGES - 1930; PRESENTED TO THE WOODMONT ROD & GUN CLUB; BY HIM IN APPRECIATION OF THE FRIENDSHIP OF HIS TWO GOOD FRIENDS HARRISON NESBIT AND FRANK J. LANAHAN OF PITTSBURGH PENNSYLVANIA.

The upper dam, Lake Lanahan, is constructed of earth with a concrete spillway. Dimensionally it is 316 feet long, by

Inventory Number: WA-VI-054
Section 7.2
C. Mazurek

26 feet high, by 12 feet wide. The spillway is rectangular and the lake drain is constructed of 24" of reinforced concrete with a gated control. In an Engineering Evaluation Report completed by Law Engineering and Environmental Services in July of 1996 they noted that after the flood "a wood beam was in place over the spillway, possible remnants of an old footbridge. Concrete steps, partially buried, were observed at the right abutment wall. These steps may have provided access to the footbridge from the embankment. The embankment was estimated to be about 280 feet long, excluding the spillway" (Section 3-1).

The secondary lodge structure (kitchen/meeting hall #2) at Cleveland's Camp is located to the west of the main lodge. The construction details are much the same, overlapping V-notched logs with a mesh covered concrete chinking and large overhanging roof, however the condition is much more deteriorated. The asphalt roof covering has come off and a major sag down the center has occurred. On the front (east) facade the large windows, same as the main lodge, have 9 lights over 2 lights, and a paneled door is centered between these. On the north facade there is one window with 6 lights situated close to the center of the eaves. There are no windows or special details on the rear (west) facade, but the south facade has two windows with 6 lights each centered close to the center of the roof pitch. The interior is laid out so that there is a stove and interior brick grill with chimney flue on the southern side, and the rest of the area is taken up by communal eating tables. This very simply ornamented structure has the logs exposed on the interior also.

Behind this lodge an outhouse is located about 100 feet away to the west, and to the north a wood clapboard outbuilding (#1) sits on a stone foundation. The front (east) facade has a door and one window with 6 lights. The tin roof is at its highest point on this facade as it slopes gently down to the west facade. There are no other construction details on this building and most likely it was used for storage. Across the dirt road from these buildings is a telephone/electrical service pole and farther from this a wooden structure that protects part of the dam piping infrastructure. Further to the north about 200 feet away on a hillside is another outbuilding (#2) which looks very similar to the other outbuilding (#1) except that it is not painted white, but left a natural wood color. Details consist of a single pane window on the south facade, and a door on the west facade. This building also appears to have been used for storage.

The Woodmont Dam is reached by following the S. Davies Warfield Turkey Ridge Road further to the south about 1/4 a mile past Cleveland's Camp. This masonry arch dam holds in the water for Lake Jenkins, and a stone monument commemorating the President of the club lies right by the dirt roadside. A plaque states LAKE EDWARD ELLIOTTE JENKINS; CONSTRUCTED BY HIS FELLOW MEMBERS IN APPRECIATION OF THE DISTINCTIVE SERVICE OF EDWARD ELLIOTTE JENKINS PRESIDENT OF WOODMONT ROD AND GUN CLUB; HENRY P. BRIDGES SECRETARY AND TREASURER 1936. Below the monument from a walkway are steps that lead down to the ledge of the dam, which is 3 feet wide. It is possible to walk along this ledge until it becomes the masonry flat-arch spillway, 55 feet long, and the flowing water prevents one from crossing to the other side. This dam is curved from one end of the narrow valley to the other about 180 feet and is built in such a way so that there are 4 tiered stone masonry ledges from the top of the dam to the bottom about 35 feet high. A narrow stream of water falls from the spillway over the lip of each ledge of this gradation to the piled rocks below and then along a narrow stream bed. This water continues through the valley to the Potomac River. A narrow 24" cast iron pipe is set at the base of the dam and on the spillway are iron clamps which help to strengthen the ledge as water flows over the stone. Below the dam about 1/4 mile is the wooden Harrison Nesbit bridge, that is in poor condition and no longer able to carry vehicular traffic. The wood planks of the bridge deck lie on log beams.

A recent storm, that occurred shortly after the State acquired the property in 1996, caused major damage to this

Inventory Number: WA-VI-054

Section 7.3

C. Mazurek

section of the Woodmont Property, and as such the Department of Natural Resources plans to rework the affected structures. During a fierce rain storm the upper lake flooded and a large amount of water flowed into this watershed. The upper dam was entirely breached and will be stabilized, but not rebuilt. A permanent spillway will be excavated to safely carry a 100 year flood event through the area and the State may restore the old stream channel in the upper lake bed, however the lake bed itself will not be refilled with water. The lower dam will be extensively reworked to ensure that its structural integrity is maintained. This will include, among other things, re-pointing the masonry, and lining the upstream face. The restoration will address the structural issues found by LAW Engineering and Environmental Services in their 1996 evaluation which found inadequacies in this dam such as: missing stones on the downstream facing of the spillway, eroded mortar joints, seepage, and numerous cracks and surface deterioration of the stone and mortar on the cap on both sides of the spillway. The lodge (kitchen/meeting hall) #1 and #2 will have routine maintenance done to them, but will not be extensively redone. The Harrison Nesbit bridge below the Jenkins Dam will be removed and replaced because of the major damage that it sustained.

3. Significance

Survey No. **WA-VI-054**

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below		
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register ☐ Maryland Register ☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, and a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance reports, discuss evaluation on a DOE Form - see manual).

Cleveland's Camp and the Woodmont Dam are sites within the larger Woodmont Rod and Gun Club near Hancock in Washington County, Maryland. This rustic hunting and fishing club encompasses some 3,420 acres of land bordering the upper reaches of the Potomac River and is representative of a managed sportsman's club. It accommodated mostly Washington D.C. elite, operating from around 1881 to 1995 when the State of Maryland bought the property.

Woodmont was created in the late Nineteenth century by Robley Evans and a few of his friends and other elites, as a naturalistic preserve in which to enjoy a wilderness experience of hunting game and catching fish and to escape the pressures of urban life. According to Henry P. Bridges who wrote The Woodmont Story, Mr. Evans met a local hunter from Hancock, Robert Lee Hill, when they were both on a streetcar in Washington D.C. Mr. Hill invited him to hunt in Western Maryland and the next fall Mr. Evans took him up on his offer. After a successful hunting trip Mr. Evans threw a party for his Washington friends, serving all of the game that he had caught. After hearing him describe the land where he hunted many of his friends decided to form the private Woodmont Club and buy land in the area.

The grounds of the club were laid out with a main lodge, stables, hen-houses, an ice-house, a cistern, and a vegetable garden. In addition there was a boat basin for visitors arriving on the Potomac and a landing platform for visitors arriving from the adjacent Western Maryland Railroad line. These avenues of transportation made access to the grounds feasible for day trips from Washington, or any of the other major cities located nearby.

Land was acquired parcel by parcel, from the original 2,223 acres, to build the club into a woodland oasis and much of the grounds, with the exception of the infrastructure were left in their natural state. Cynthia Ott in her research on Woodmont says "The landscape at Woodmont was not altered. Their early wildlife management program consisted of the posting of their property and the prosecution of poachers." The game that was present in the surrounding area and passed through the property was hunted, without any need for the introduction of animals.

The original Woodmont lodge was designed by W.G. Phillips and Cynthia Ott found a description of the

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Section 8.2

C. Mazurek

structure in The American Angler Magazine, titled The Woodmont Rod and Gun Club. Its Organization Description of Club-House, etc. No. 17, October 21, 1882 that says "it was "an Italian style of architecture, painted in fancy but pleasing colors". The building was a typical Victorian resort-style wooden-frame structure with a wide porch on three sides. The interior contained a club room, dining room, and ten sleeping chambers that could accommodate up to forty people. A "grand old-fashioned fireplace" warmed the two central first floor rooms and two "six-light kerosene chandeliers" provided illumination. The building was "decorated from top to bottom with pictures and engravings of fishing and hunting scenes and other works of art, acquired by purchase, and gifts of friends of the club." This lodge did not last long however because in 1903 it was entirely destroyed by a fire which shut the club down.

In 1909 it was put on the market by the original owners and eventually bought by another group of wealthy men, this time based out of Baltimore instead of Washington. They were organized by Henry P. Bridges, a lawyer, who bought the property from Thomas D. Claiborne in 1911 (Deed recorded in Liber 137/folio 220) and these new owners wasted no time in constructing a lodge for their use and enjoyment of the land. It was a simple wood frame structure, that suited the newly reorganized club's goal of creating an orderly approach to nature.

This order was all but lacking in the previous club's approach to the property. Cynthia Ott says "Under his [Henry Bridges] the landscape was altered to create an idealized wilderness aesthetic, to provide sporting activities to its clientele, and to serve as stage for ecological engineering...Preservation and conservation programs were created in response to the loss of habitat, the extinction of the Passenger Pigeon, and the near eradication of other animals, such as the bison" (Ott). Game were raised on the property to be hunted by club members and a fence was constructed around the entire property to prevent poachers from intruding on the property. The fence also served as a means of preventing the raised game from escaping the property.

The new property layout included numerous game fields interspersed between park infrastructure such as breeding pens, game wardens and keepers houses, bridges, dams, lodges, and a network of circuitous dirt roads linking them together. "The Woodmont landscape was reshaped to form a setting that accentuated 'virgin wilderness' and recreation...In order to sustain a feeling of vastness and solitude, roads, game fields, and hunting grounds were dispersed so as not to be obtrusive. Even if a hundred members and guests were present, the grounds were organized so that they were practically unaware of each other's presence" (Ott). This was quite a feat since game fields are practically adjacent to each other. It was accomplished by limiting the number of hunters on the property and by orchestrating exactly where hunters would stand and wait for the game, which were released by game keepers at the opposite edge of the field. Not only did this make the wilderness experience more enjoyable for the hunters, but it also prevented accidental shootings.

In 1929 a new lodge, and the one that still stands, was built on the property to replace the simple wooden one already there. This lodge was built in a Craftsman style with construction materials taken from the property in order for it to blend seamlessly with the rocky hillsides and verdant valleys of the surrounding landscape. It was made of stone and three stories tall, with a green tile roof, and a veranda overlooking the Potomac River valley. The interior had dark wood detailing and stone fireplaces throughout the first floor and numerous sleeping quarters on the second floor. Throughout the lodge were trophy animals and memorabilia from famous visitors and members. These included among other things an Audubon print, antique muskets, photographs of Babe Ruth signing autographs, a signed Amos and Andy photograph, and numerous mounted mallards (DGS Inventory Report). The most prized possession of the club however, is the President's Chair, which has an engraved plaque of all the United States Presidents who have visited the club since it's inception in the 1880's. This cane-seated rocking chair is one of the only things saved from the original lodge which burnt down. Notable presidents on the list include James A. Garfield, Chester A. Arthur, Grover Cleveland, Benjamin Harrison, Herbert C. Hoover, and Franklin D. Roosevelt.

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The image of President Cleveland, a frequent Woodmont visitor, was important to the club since he was an avid sportsman and represented the exclusiveness that the club wished to portray. In addition to his name carved into the President's Chair he had a rock in the Potomac River named after him. According to a note made on the 1911/1948 plat map, from this rock the President caught 25 bass in 1894 and from hence forth it was named Cleveland's Rock in honor of him.

In addition Cleveland's Camp on the Woodmont property was also named after the President. This collection of rustic lodges and outbuildings nestled between Lake Jenkins and Lake Lanahan was a place to eat and take a rest from an active day of hunting. "Typically, men hunted or fished in small groups in the morning and then met for a communal lunch at Camp Cleveland, the large log cabin located picturesquely between the lakes. The guides prepared the meals for the hunters and served themselves in a smaller cabin next door" (Ott). The two lodge (kitchen/meeting halls # 1 & # 2) structures date from the 1930's and still have most of their historic fabric intact, including the large communal table and ornate windows and doors. In addition the monument next to the buildings, the outbuilding # 1, and the outhouse date from the 1930's. The other structure, the outbuilding # 2, is a much more recent addition to the complex and appears to date from the mid to late Twentieth century.

The dams which created Lake Jenkins and Lake Lanahan at Camp Cleveland were created in the 1930's by Henry Bridges, Secretary and Treasurer of the Club, and dedicated to his friends Harrison Nesbit and Frank Lanahan for the upper lake, as well as for Edward Elliotte Jenkins, who was President of the Club at the time, for the lower lake. Plaques commemorating these individuals are located on stone monuments right next to each lake. The two lakes were created from a natural spring in what was once a valley because "pollution from local industries had nearly destroyed the fish population in the Potomac River and its estuaries. The upper lake, which was stocked with trout, was about one quarter mile long and thirty feet deep. The lower lake, which was stocked with bass, was about three quarters mile long and thirty-five feet deep. The limit for either type of fish was ten per fisherman per day" (Ott). The water that flows over the lower dam ends up in a small brook that meanders along the valley floor, flows under the small Harrison Nesbit Bridge, past a club house (the second one built after the fire that destroyed the original in 1903), and then enters the Potomac River.

Maryland Historical Trust

Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Survey No. WA-VI-054

Name

Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 2

HISTORIC CONTEXT:

MARYLAND COMPREHENSIVE PRESERVATION PLAN DATA

Geographic Organization: Western Maryland

Chronological/Developmental Period(s): Industrial/Urban Dominance

Prehistoric/Historic Period Theme(s): Architecture/ Landscape Architecture/ Community Planning

Resource Type:

Category: Buildings

Historic Environment : Rural

Historic Function(s) and Use(s): Hunting and Fishing Club

Known Design Source: Unknown

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. WA-VI-054

1. Bridges, Henry. The Woodmont Story. A.S. Barnes and Co., 1953.
2. Ott, Cynthia. Draft of 1995 research project on Woodmont for a University of Pennsylvania history class, which later was published in the Maryland Historical Magazine.
3. Plat of Property of Woodmont Rod and Gun Club of Baltimore Maryland, plotted from records and deeds by J.B. Ferguson & Co., Engineers Hagerstown Maryland, 1911 and revised in 1948.
4. Department of General Services Inventory Verification Report, December 13, 1995, submitted by William A. Lytle of Inventory Standards & Support Services.
5. LAW Engineering and Environmental Services of Columbia Maryland, Draft Report of Engineering Evaluation, Lakes Lanahan and Jenkins Dams, July 1996.

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 3,420 acres

Quadrangle name BELLE GROVE, MD.-PA.-W.VA

Quadrangle scale 1:24,000

Verbal boundary description and justification

Woodmont Rod & Gun Club roughly borders Sideling Hill Wildlife Management Area to the west, the Potomac River to the south, the National Pike to the north, and private property to the east. In addition Woodmont Road more or less runs straight through the property from the National Pike to the Potomac River. An official Plat of this property was completed by J.B. Ferguson & Co., Engineers, of Hagerstown in 1911 and revised in 1948.

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Charlie Mazurek, Specialist in Historic Structures

organization MD Department of Natural Resources

date 4/27/00

street & number Tawes State Office Building, 580 Taylor Avenue

telephone (410) 260-8192

city or town Annapolis

state and zip code MD 21401

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
DHCD/DHCP
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2 023
410-514-7646

WOODMONT DAM, CAMP CLEVELAND
WASHINGTON CO., MD

C. MAZUREK

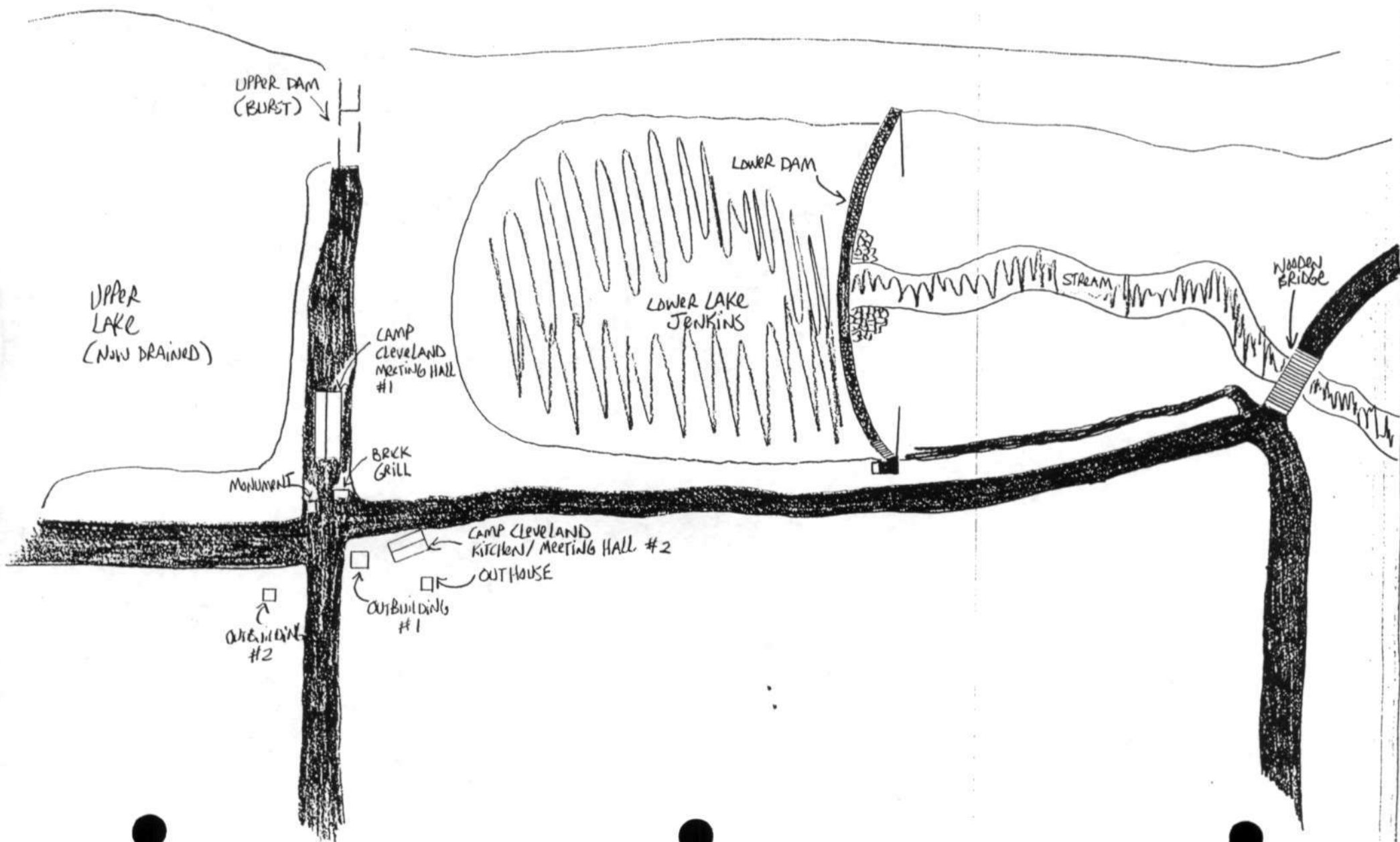
DRAWN ON APRIL 3, 2000

NO SCALE USED

SITE MAP

WA-VI-054

NORTH



WOODMONT DAM AND CAMP CLEVELAND

WA-VI-054

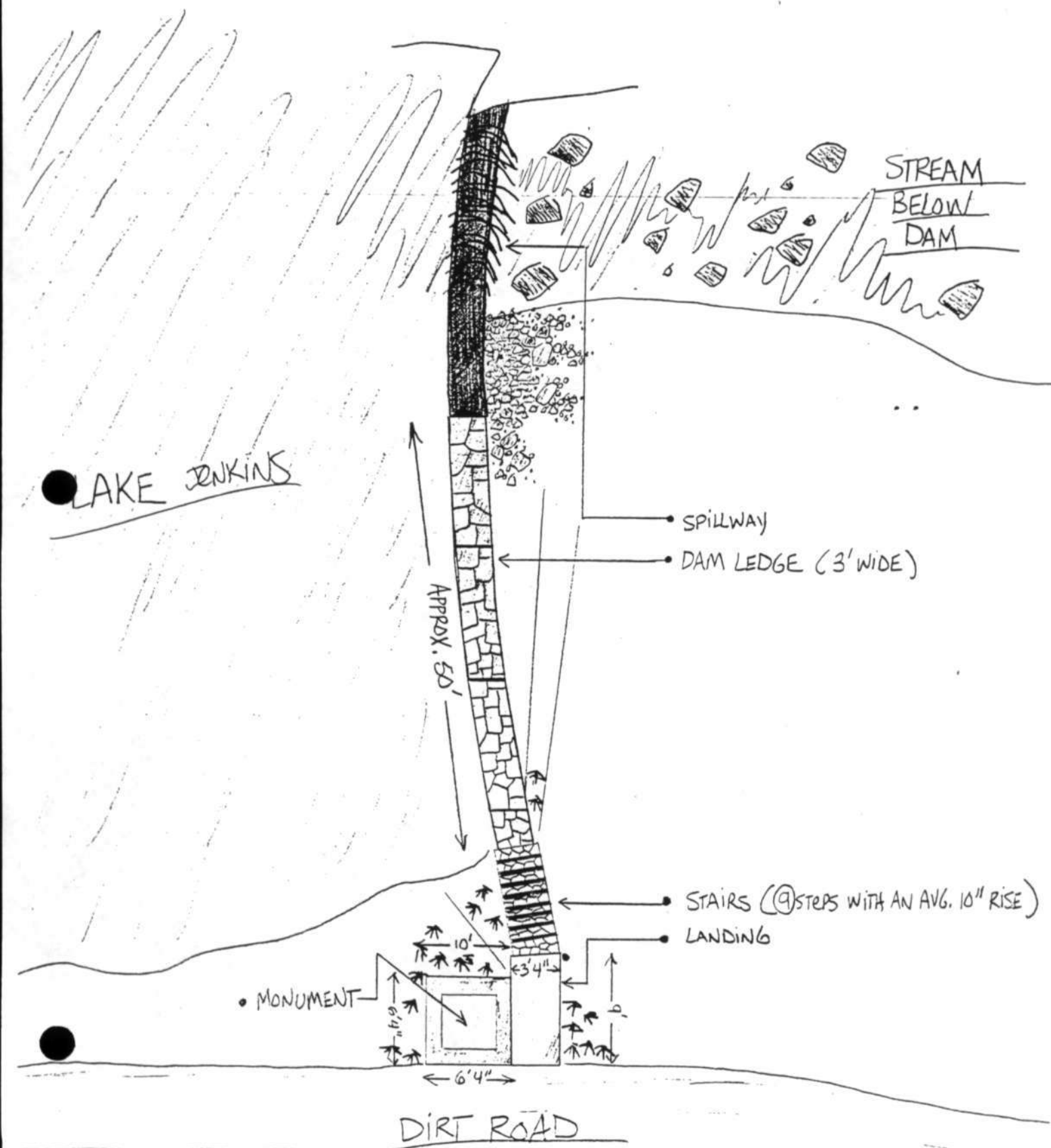
WASHINGTON CO., MD

C. MAZUREK

DRAWN ON APRIL 3, 2000

3/32 SCALE

NORTH



WOODMONT DAM AND CAMP CLEVELAND

WA-VI-054

WASHINGTON CO., MD

C. MAZUREK

DRAWN ON APRIL 3, 2000

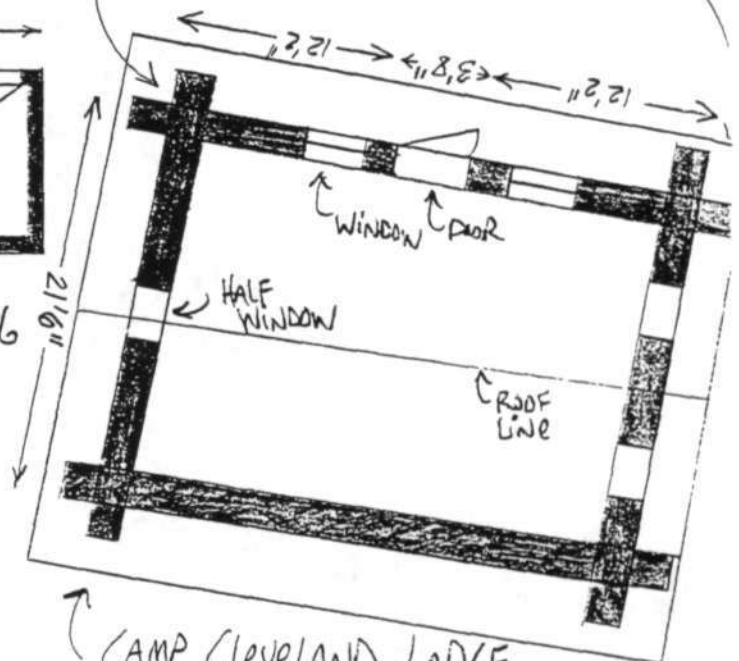
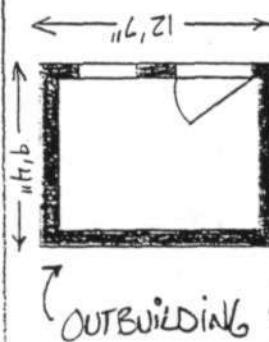
3/32 SCALE

NORTH

DIPT ROAD

BUILDING MEASUREMENTS
DO NOT INCLUDE LOG
OVERHANG

ROOF
OVERHANG



WOODMONT DAM AND CAMP CLEVELAND WASHINGTON CO., MD

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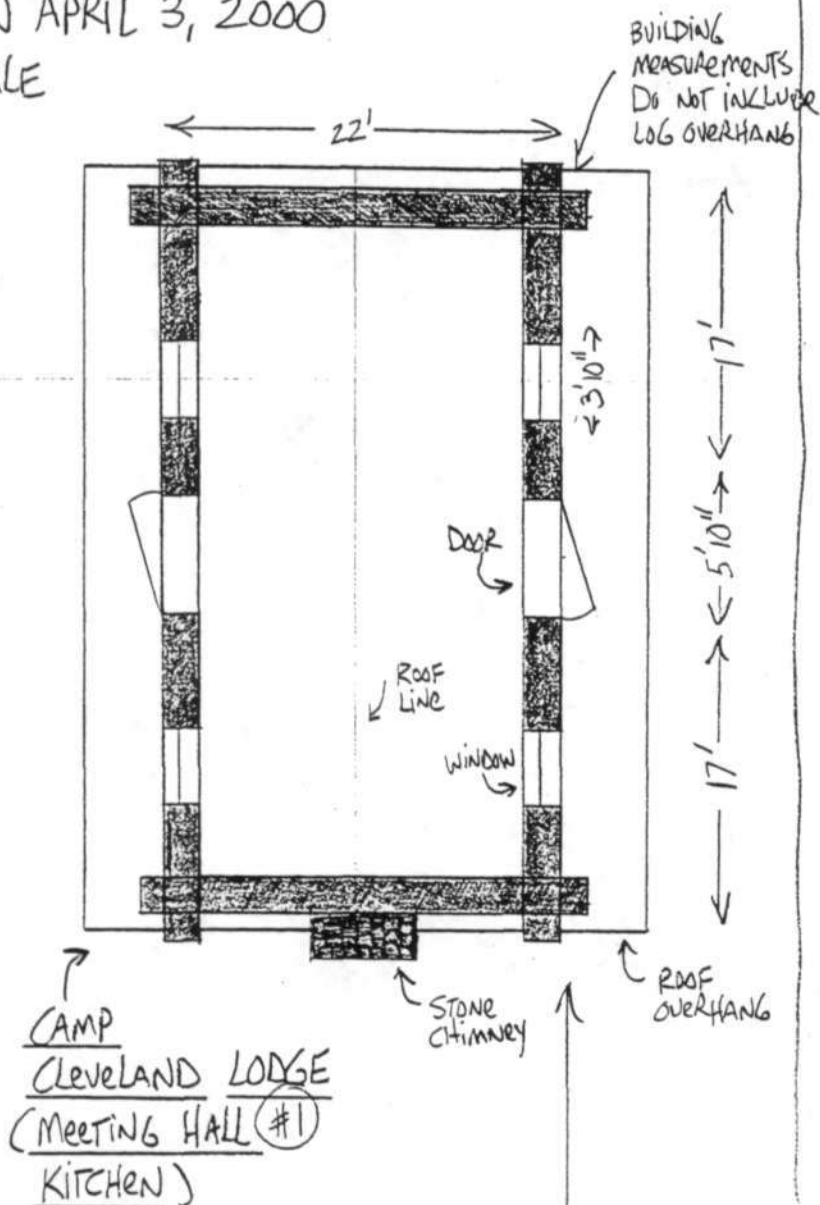
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3/32 SCALE

WA-VI-054

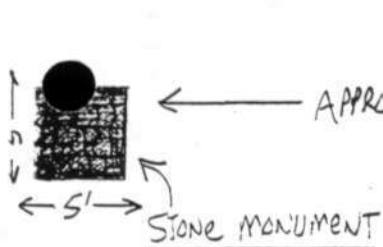
NORTH

WATER
(Now Dried)

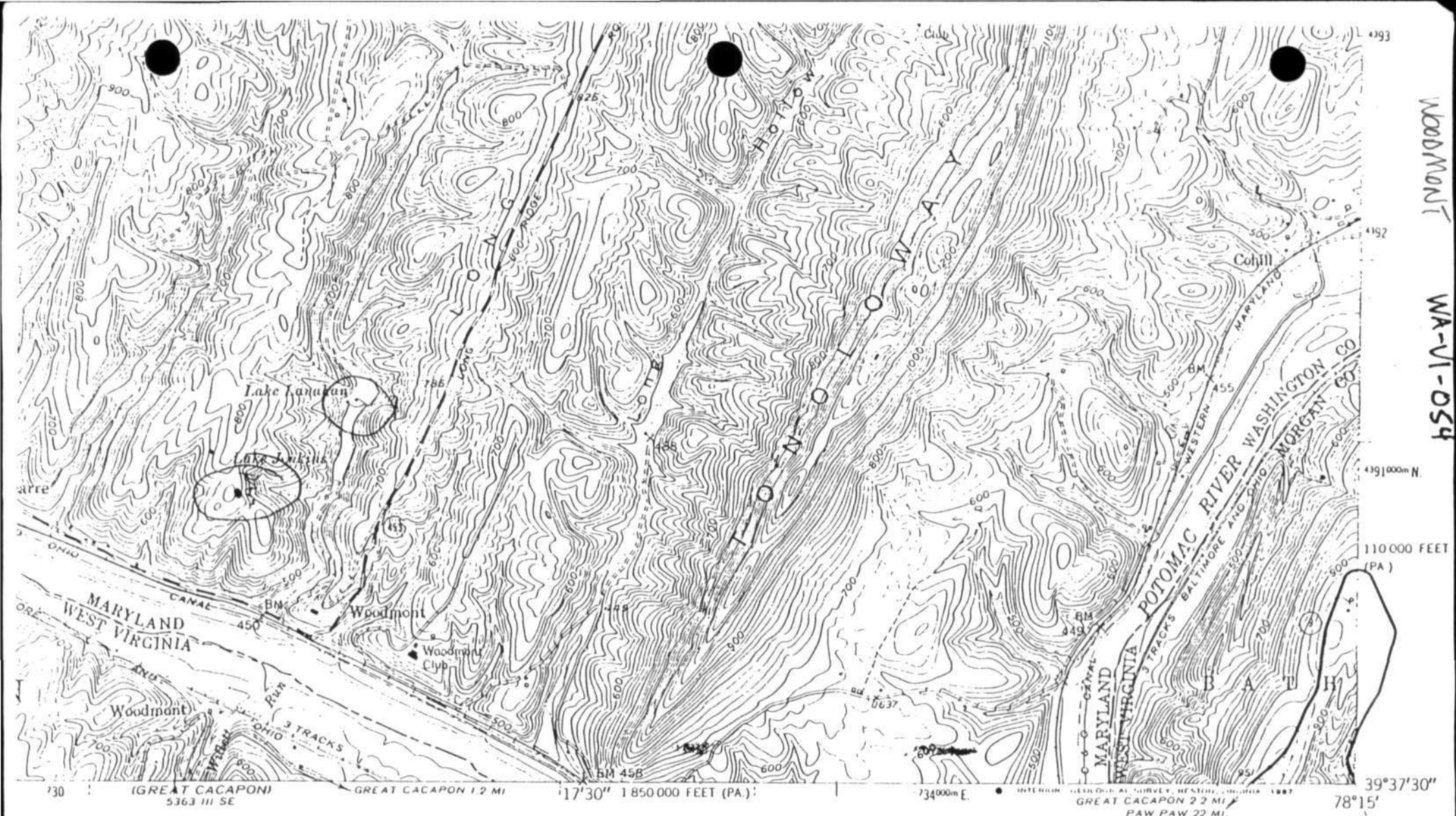


WETLAND AREA

APPROX. 25'



WOODMONT
WA-VI-054



SCALE 1:24000



CONTOUR INTERVAL 20 FEET

NATIONAL GEODETIC VERTICAL DATUM OF 1929



QUADRANGLE LOCATION

ROAD CLASSIFICATION

Heavy duty	4 LANE 6 LANE	Light duty
Medium duty	4 LANE 6 LANE	Unimproved dirt

U.S. Route State Route

BELLE GROVE, MD.-PA.-W. VA.

NE/4 PAW PAW 15' QUADRANGLE

39078-F3-TF-024

To place on the predicted North American Datum 1983,
move the projection lines 6 meters south and

1001

LEY SPRINGS (JUNC. U.S. 522) 1.5 MI
MARTINSBURG 25 MI
5381 11.5
CROSSROADS

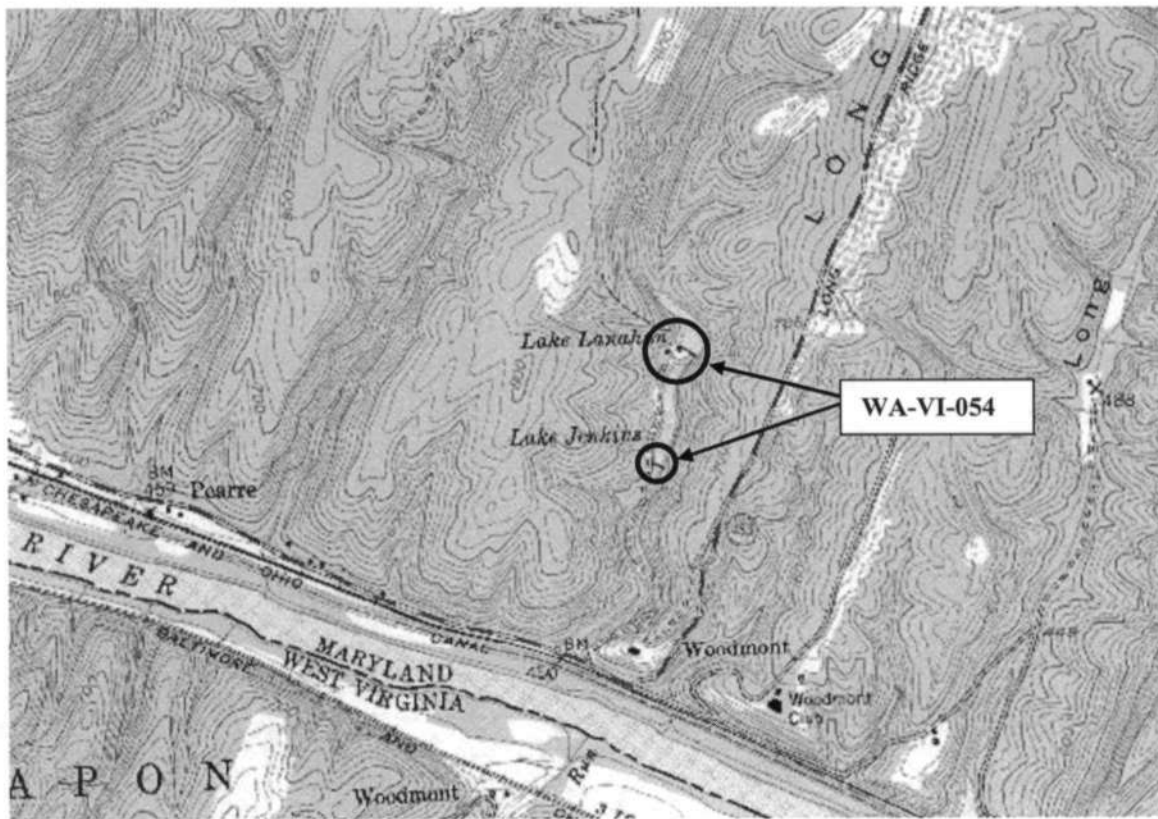
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Woodmont Rod and Gun Club

(Cleveland's Camp and Woodmont Dam)

Woodmont Road, Hancock

Bellegrove Quadrangle





WA-VI-054

WOODMONT DAM AND CAMP CLEVELAND

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3/2000

MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

VIEW OF BREACHED UPPER DAM

1 OF 14

LAKE NESBIT & LANAHAN

BUILT BY

HENRY P. BRIDGES. - 1980

PRESENTED TO

THE WOODMONT ROD & GUN CLUB

BY HIM IN APPRECIATION OF THE FRIENDSHIP OF HIS TWO GOOD FRIENDS

HARRISON NESBIT AND FRANK J. LANAHAN

OF PITTSBURGH PENNSYLVANIA

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WOODMONT DAM AND CAMP CLEVELAND

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VIEW OF PLAQUE ON MONUMENT NEXT TO LOWER DAM

2 OF 14



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WOODMONT DAM AND CAMP CLEVELAND

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MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

VIEW OF LAKE JENKINS, FACING SOUTH

3 OF 14



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WOODMONT DAM AND CAMP CLEVELAND

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VIEW OF CAMP CLEVELAND MEETING HALL #1

4 OF 14



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WOODMONT DAM AND CAMP CLEVELAND

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OUTBUILDING #2, SW FACADES

5 OF 14



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WOODMONT DAM AND CAMP CLEVELAND

WASHINGTON CO., MD

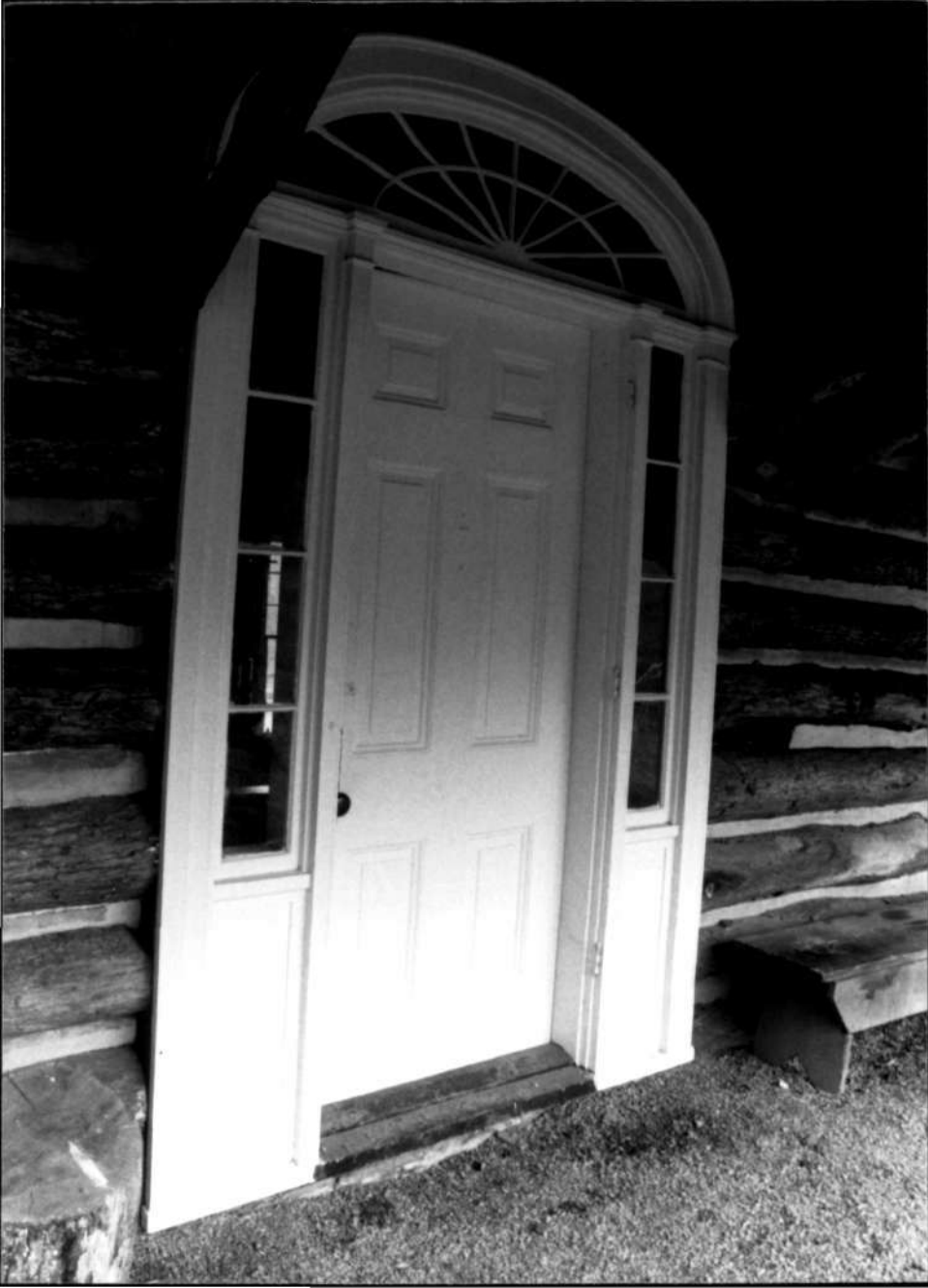
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OUTBUILDING #1 AND KITCHEN/MEETING HALL #2
FACING WEST.

6 OF 14



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WOODMONT DAM AND CAMP CLEVELAND

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FRONT DOOR ON CAMP CLEVELAND MEETING HALL #1
SOUTH FACADE.

7 OF 14



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WOODMONT DAM AND CAMP CLEVELAND

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SOUTH FACADE.

8 OF 14



WA - VI - 054

WOODMONT DAM AND CAMP CLEVELAND

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MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

STAIRS ON WESTERN SIDE OF LAKE JENKINS

9 OF 14



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WOODMONT Dam AND CAMP CLEVELAND

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LAKE JENKINS Dam, FACING EAST.

10 OF 14



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WOODMONT DAM AND CAMP CLEVELAND

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MD DEPT. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

VIEW NORTH, FROM EDGE OF LAKE JENKINS DAM.

11 OF 14

LAKE EDWARD ELLIOTTE JENKINS

CONSTRUCTED BY HIS FELLOW MEMBERS
IN APPRECIATION OF THE DISTINCTIVE SERVICE OF

EDWARD ELLIOTTE JENKINS
PRESIDENT OF WOODMONT ROD & GUN CLUB

HENRY P. BRIDGES
SECRETARY AND TREASURER

1936

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MONUMENT PLAQUE ON LAKE JENKINS

12 OF 14



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WOODMONT DAM AND CAMP CLEVELAND

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WOODEN BRIDGE BELOW LAKE JENKINS DAM

13 OF 14



WA-VI-054

WOODMONT DAM AND CAMP CLEVELAND

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3/2000

MD Dept. OF NATURAL RESOURCES

VIEW OF LAKE JENKINS DAM BELOW, FACING NORTH

14 OF 14